Indiana Department of Education

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To: Technology Education Teachers
From: Mike Fitzgerald
Subject: Technology Education, Middle Level Technology Education

TECHNOLOGY EDUCATION
(511 IAC 6-7-6, 511 IAC 6.1-5.1-9 AND 511 IAC 6.1-5-3.5)

MIDDLE LEVEL TECHNOLOGY EDUCATION
(Grades 7 and 8, or Grades 6, 7, and 8)

TECHNOLOGY

DOE #0490

The goal of Technology Education at the middle level is to provide students with activity-based instruction that introduces them to the importance of technology and the principles used to develop, produce, use, and assess it. The students develop both individual and teamwork skills needed to participate in and contribute to society.

The Technology Education curriculum is designed for delivery over a period of 36 weeks. Instruction can be divided into two 18-week or three 12-week courses. Other appropriate modifications can be made for schools using a block schedule. Instructional activities should introduce students to the world of technology as a body of knowledge and actions used by people to apply resources in: (1) designing technology, (2) using technological processes to produce artifacts and systems, (3) using technological devices and systems appropriately, and (4) assessing the impacts of technology on people, society, and the environment. These four technological actions extend the human potential for controlling and modifying the natural and human-made environment.

Students should understand that *technology* is a *system* and that the four technological actions are universal to all technologies. Activities should demonstrate these actions from a human productivity approach and develop students' abilities to:

- Describe the structure and impact of communication, construction, manufacturing, and transportation technologies.
- Understand that the technology system is comprised of inputs, processes, outputs, feedback, goals, and impacts.
- Apply technical processes, analyze materials, manufacture products, and construct structures.
- Use a variety of technical means to design, produce, analyze, and deliver messages.
- Design and construct transportation systems and devices.